

University of Denver
Faculty Senate
Minutes
September 25, 2015
Room 290, Anderson Academic Commons

Senators (or proxies) present: Jonathan Adelman, Anneliese Amschler Andrews, Michael Brent, Tess Bruce, Victor Castellani, Ruth Chao, Fred Cheever, Frédérique Chevillot, Kate Crowe, Bradley Davidson, Terri Davis, Elizabeth Drogin, Maha Foster, David Gao (proxy for Ron DeLyser), Tony Gault, Jim Gilroy, Eric Gould, Kathy Green, Jennifer Greenfield, Cynthia Hazel, Annabeth Headrick, Scott Johns, Art Jones, Megan Kelly, Paul Kosempel, Michelle Kruse-Crocker, Rick Leaman, Sergio Macias, Seth Masket, Eleanor McNeese, Laleh Mehran, Erin Meyer, Gloria Miller, Keith Miller, Paul Pallub, Ronnie Pavlov, Amy Phillips, Rebecca Powell, Tom Quinn, Chip Reichardt, Aimee Reichman-Decker, Paula Rhodes, Carol Samson (proxy for Vi Narapareddy), Jonathan Sciarcon, Orna Shaughnessy, Mary Steefel, Kate Stoker, Nicole Taylor (proxy for Jamie Shapiro), Ron Throupe, John Tiedemann, Robert Urquhart, Ann Vessels, Michele von Merveldt, Kate Willink, Melanie Witt, Carol Zak-Dance, Duan Zhang

Call to Order, Approval of Minutes

Art Jones, Senate President, called the meeting to order at noon.

A motion to approve the minutes from the May 22, 2015 Senate meeting was seconded and approved.

Announcements – Art Jones

Art announced that the October 30th Chancellor’s Roundtable will be a special meeting of the full Faculty Senate to allow for a discussion of the Impact 2025 strategic planning document with the Chancellor. The meeting will be open to all faculty.

Art announced a call for nominations for a Senator At Large position to replace Ginni Ishimatsu, who is unable to serve. Nominations should be sent to John Hill. The election will be held at the Senate meeting October 23rd.

Art reminded Senators of the art installation taking place on Carnegie Green today. Ron White, a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, has memorized the names of thousands of soldiers killed in combat and will write them on a memorial wall.

Art called for a consent agenda, including the resolution to grant Nancy Allen, former Dean and Director of University Libraries, emeritus status. The consent agenda and resolution passed by a show of hands.

Strategic Plan Discussion

All present engaged in a World Café discussion exercise to collect structured feedback on the Impact 2025 document. Moving through four discussion group areas at timed intervals, discussants responded to sets of questions in each area: transformative directions, goals, wordsmithing/tone and “what’s missing.” Facilitators for each of the four areas took notes to report back to Art, who will collate and synthesize the comments.

In the interest of time, only the “what’s missing” facilitators reported back to the full meeting. Facilitator John Tiedemann reported the following omissions were noted in his groups: 1) 1) The document does not address how non-traditional, commuter, and working students will be fully integrated into the undergraduate experience as envisioned. 2) Off-campus communities are marginalized; they should be stakeholders not just objects of study. 3) The Arts are mostly absent. 4) Graduate students are mostly absent. 5) The different roles faculty will play – for example in equity and internationalization – are not clear. Students are encouraged and supported to travel abroad...what about faculty? Facilitator Rick Lehman reported the following omissions 1) Graduate students. 2) Housing – affordable housing, being a good neighbor, Greek housing and its relationship to campus. 3) Sources for resources to fund the plan. 4) National focus for student recruitment. 5) Educating the whole person both physical and mental, to deal with the stresses of personal and job life.

Art noted this is just the start of a larger conversation and an excellent opportunity for increasing faculty engagement, a goal for Senate this year. He noted that the faculty receives a much better response when they lead, rather than just react to issues and reminded faculty that we need to reclaim our role as campus leaders if the University is to truly be a faculty-led institution.

Art then reminded Senators to complete the online PTR survey and to remind their constituents to do so as well.

Question: Is PTR just an acronym for one outcome, Post Tenure Review?

Response to question: Kate Willink responded that the ad hoc committee had been exploring the question of and options for post tenure reviews and realized they needed more baseline data on how faculty reviews are currently done and, if needed, a pulse on what PTR could look like at DU. She noted that the committee has no sense from the Chancellor or Provost that this has to be done to satisfy external needs. The charge to the committee from Faculty Senate is to determine first if a review should be implemented, before determining the type of review. The survey is constructed to indicate that it is about more than just Post Tenure Review.

Question: Could Provost Kvisstad be asked to restate that the faculty should implement a post tenure review before it is implemented for them?

Response: Chip Reichardt responded that he himself had said that, but did not believe the Provost had ever stated it.

Art closed the meeting by stating that the Senate roster was still in some flux so the orientation for new Senators would be held a half hour before the October Senate meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared and submitted by

Erin Meyer
Faculty Senate Secretary